

Return Money  
1460-130

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2002

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 130.00

## Complete if Known

Application Number 09/847,446  
Filing Date 05/09/2001  
First Named Inventor Clayton Jay Allen  
Examiner Name  
Group Art Unit  
Attorney Docket No. 21256-0004

RECEIVED  
MAY 09 2003  
GROUP \$600

## METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. ☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number 50-1215  
Deposit Account Name

- ☒ Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17  
☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

2. ☒ Payment Enclosed:

☒ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other

## FEE CALCULATION

### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
101	740	201	370	Utility filing fee	
106	330	206	165	Design filing fee	
107	510	207	255	Plant filing fee	
108	740	208	370	Reissue filing fee	
114	160	214	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)

### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims		Extra Claims		Fee from below		Fee Paid
Independent	Multiple Dependent	-20**	-3**			

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	
103	18	203	9	Claims in excess of 20
102	84	202	42	Independent claims in excess of 3
104	280	204	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109	84	209	42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

## FEE CALCULATION (continued)

### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity		Small Entity		Fee Description	Fee Paid
Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)		
105	130	205	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147	2,520	For filing a request for <i>ex parte</i> reexamination	
112	920*	112	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840*	113	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month	
116	400	216	200	Extension for reply within second month	
117	920	217	460	Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,440	218	720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,960	228	980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	320	219	160	Notice of Appeal	
120	320	220	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	280	221	140	Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,280	241	640	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,280	242	640	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	460	243	230	Design issue fee	
144	620	244	310	Plant issue fee	
122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	130.00
123	50	123	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126	180	126	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	740	246	370	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	740	249	370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179	740	279	370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169	900	169	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify)

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

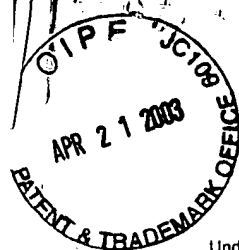
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 130.00)

## SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Brian F. Drazich	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	41,718	Telephone	(213) 229-2944
Signature	Brian Drazich	Date	04/11/2003		

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/847,446	
	Filing Date	05/02/01	
	First Named Inventor	Clayton Jay Allen	
	Group Art Unit	3635 [expected]	
	Examiner Name	to be assigned	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4*	Attorney Docket Number	21256-0004

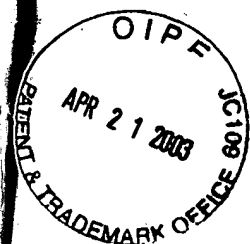
RECEIVED  
MAY 09 2003  
GROUP 3600

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Copies of: SB21 & Reply of 8-28-01, Drawings from US Pat. 5,680,738 & 6,237,303 & postcard; check; return postcard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	* Does not include copies of: (1)SB21, (2)Reply, (3)drawings from the above-identified patents, and (4)return postcard, all mailed 8-28-01; \$130.00 check; and return postcard.
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Brian F. Drazich
Signature	<i>Brian Drazich</i>
Date	4-9-03

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: April 21, 2003			
Typed or printed name	Mary Helen Lopez		
Signature	<i>Mary Helen Lopez</i>	Date	4-11-03

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PATENT  
21256-0004  
formerly 6327-1018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:  
Clayton Jay Allen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/847,446

Filing Date: May 2, 2001

For: STEEL FRAME STRESS  
REDUCTION CONNECTION

Examiner: R. Chilcot [Expected]

Art Unit No.: 3635

RECEIVED  
MAY 09 2003  
GROUP 3600

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION FOR WITHDRAWAL OF HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT MADE  
PURSUANT TO THE NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT DATED APRIL 2, 2003

Dear Sir:

Applicants request that the holding of abandonment, notice of which was  
contained in the Notice of Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.53(f) or (g), mailed April 2,  
2003, be withdrawn for the following reasons:

Adjustment date: 07/30/2003 SDIRETAT  
04/22/2003 HMOHAMM1 00000106 09847446  
01 FC:1460 (-130.00 OP)

- I. REQUEST TO WITHDRAW HOLDING OF ABANDONMENT IN  
ITS ENTIRETY BECAUSE APPLICANTS TIMELY FILED A  
REPLY TO THE NOTICE MAILED JULY 2, 2001.

LOSANGELES 100834v1

04/22/2003 HMOHAMM1 00000106 09847446  
01 FC:1460 (-130.00 OP)

Req. In. Ref: 07/30/2003 SDIRETAT 0008013300  
Date: 13CJ00 Name/Number: 09847446  
FC: 3604 \$130.00 CR

In response to the Notice Of Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.53(f) or (g) ("Notice") dated April 2, 2003, Applicants hereby request that the holding of abandonment and Notice be withdrawn in their entirety.

The Notice states that the "application is abandoned for failure to timely or properly reply to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed on 07/02/2001. No reply was received." Applicants' file contains a document entitled "Reply To Notice To File Corrected Application Papers Dated July 2, 2001", together with the supporting documents referenced therein, and a Transmittal Form bearing a certification of mailing on August 28, 2001. The certification of mailing reflects that the Transmittal Form, Reply (4 pages), Drawings from U.S. Patent Nos. 5,680,738 and 6,237,303, and Return Postcard were deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on August 28, 2001. A copy of the Transmittal Form, Reply, drawings and return postcard are submitted herewith.

Applicants assert that the papers submitted herewith establish that Applicants timely and properly responded to the Notice To File Corrected Application Papers dated July 2, 2001. Applicants also note that the Reply was mailed August 28, 2001, shortly

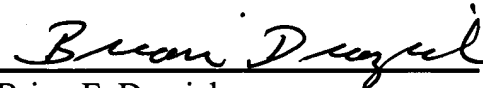
before the attack of September 11, 2001 and the disruption of postal service which followed.

## II. CONCLUSION.

For all of the above reasons, it requested that the holding of abandonment be withdrawn in its entirety, and that the Notice of Abandonment Under 37 CFR 1.53(f) or (g) mailed April 2, 2003, be withdrawn.

Dated: April 11, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



Brian F. Drazich  
Reg. No. 41,718  
Attorney for Applicants

COUDERT BROTHERS LLP  
333 South Hope Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90071  
Tel: (213) 229-2944  
Fax: (213) 229-2999



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/847,446	05/02/2001	Clayton J. Allen	6327-1018

CONFIRMATION NO. 7738

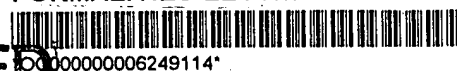
FORMALITIES LETTER

Brian F. Drazich  
Small Larkin, LLP  
18th Floor  
10940 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

RECEIVED

MAY 09 2003

GROUP 3600



Date Mailed: 07/02/2001

## NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

*Filing Date Granted*

This application has been accorded an Application Number and Filing Date. The application, however, is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a)

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because:
  - drawings contain excessive text. Suitable descriptive legends may be used, or may be required by the Examiner where necessary for understanding of the drawing but should contain as few words as possible ( see 37 CFR 1.84(o));

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

*MTB*  
Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE



UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND  
TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/847,446	05/02/2001	Clayton J. Allen	6327-1018

CONFIRMATION NO. 7738

ABANDONMENT/TERMINATION  
LETTER



PC 800 009 751743\*

Brian F. Drazich  
Small Larkin, LLP  
18th Floor  
10940 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90024

RECEIVED

MAY 09 2003

GROUP 3600 Date Mailed: 04/02/2003

### NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.53 (f) OR (g)

The above-identified application is abandoned for failure to timely or properly reply to the Notice to File Missing Parts (Notice) mailed on 07/02/2001.

- No reply was received.

A petition to the Commissioner under 37 CFR 1.137 may be filed requesting that the application be revived.

Under 37 CFR 1.137(a), a petition requesting the application be revived on the grounds of **UNAVOIDABLE DELAY** must be filed promptly after the applicant becomes aware of the abandonment and such petition must be accompanied by: (1) an adequate showing of the cause of unavoidable delay; (2) the required reply to the above-identified Notice; (3) the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(l); and (4) a terminal disclaimer if required by 37 CFR 1.137(d).

Under 37 CFR 1.137(b), a petition requesting the application be revived on the grounds of **UNINTENTIONAL DELAY** must be filed promptly after applicant becomes aware of the abandonment and such petition must be accompanied by: (1) a statement that the entire delay was unintentional; (2) the required reply to the above-identified Notice; (3) the petition fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(m); and (4) a terminal disclaimer if required by 37 CFR 1.137(d).

Any questions concerning petitions to revive should be directed to "Office of Petitions" at (703) 305-9282.

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

*C. M. Haywood*

Customer Service Center  
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

Receipt is hereby acknowledged by the Assistant Commissioner for  
Patents of the enclosed: Reply to Notice to File Corrected Appln (3 pgs);  
Copy of Notice to File Corrected Application Papers (1 pg); Face Page  
and Drawings for Patent Nos. 5,680,738 and 6,237,303 sent via first class  
mail.

Applicant:	Clayton J. Allen, et al
Serial No.:	09/847,446
Filed:	05/02/01
Title:	STEEL FRAME STRESS REDUCTION CONNECTION
File No.:	6327-1018
Atty:	JEH:cmw
Mailed:	August 28, 2001





Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/847,445	
	Filing Date	05/02/01	
	First Named Inventor	Clayton Jay Allen	
	Group Art Unit	3635 [expected]	
	Examiner Name	R. Chilcot [expected]	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4*	Attorney Docket Number	6327-1018

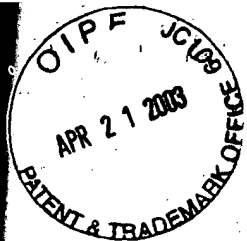
RECEIVED  
MAY 09 2003  
GROUP 3600

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Drawings from U.S. Patent Nos. 5,680,738 and 6,237,303; Return Postcard
Remarks		* Does not include drawings from the above-identified patents.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Jon E. Hokanson
Signature	
Date	8/28/01

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: 8/28/01			
Typed or printed name	Cheryl M. Watson		
Signature		Date	8/28/01

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PATENT  
6327-1018

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:  
Clayton Jay Allen, et al.

Serial No.: 09/847,446

Filing Date: May 2, 2001

For: STEEL FRAME STRESS REDUCTION  
CONNECTION

Examiner: R. Chilcot [Expected]

Art Unit No.: 3635

RECEIVED  
MAY 09 2003  
GROUP 3600

Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

REPLY TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED  
APPLICATION PAPERS DATED JULY 2, 2001

Dear Sir:

Applicants reply to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers, dated July 2, 2001, as follows:

**I. REQUEST TO WITHDRAW NOTICE IN ITS ENTIRETY.**

In response to the Notice To File Corrected Application Papers ("Notice") dated July 2, 2001, requiring substitute drawings, Applicant hereby requests that the Notice be withdrawn in its entirety. The same drawings were approved in the parent application, which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,237,303. A copy of the cover page and the drawings are submitted herewith. In addition, the grandparent application, which contains many of the same drawings, has also issued as a patent, U.S. Patent No. 5,680,738. A copy of the cover sheet and the drawings are

submitted herewith. In light of the fact that the same drawings already are in an issued patent, and many of the drawings are also found in a second, related patent, alteration of those drawings would result in confusion, add unnecessary expense and create an unnecessary risk of error in any patent that might issue from the present application. Furthermore, the textual material included with the drawings is the type of material that persons of ordinary skill in the art customarily expect to accompany drawings of this type in this field of technology.

For all of the above reasons, it requested that the Notice be withdrawn in its entirety.

**II. IN THE ALTERNATIVE, REQUEST TO SPECIFY TEXTUAL MATERIAL  
TO BE DELETED.**

The Notice fails to specify which textual material is required to be deleted from the drawings. Inasmuch as the textual material in the drawings is the type that is customarily expected in drawings by persons of ordinary skill in this field of technology, Applicant requests, in the alternative, that the particular text that the Examiner considers to be "excessive" and therefore in violation of 37 C.F.R. § 1.84, be specified with particularity.

///

///

///

///

///

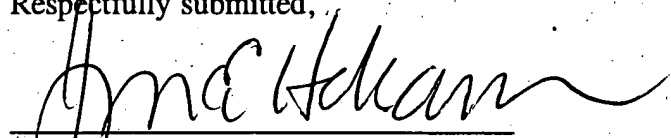
///

III. CONCLUSION.

For all of the reasons above, it is believed that the Notice should be withdrawn, or in the alternative, the specific text considered to be "excessive" be specified with particularity, and such action is requested.

Dated: August 24, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



Jon E. Hokanson  
Reg. No. 30,069  
Attorney for Applicants

SMALL LARKIN, LLP  
10940 Wilshire Boulevard, 18<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90024  
Tel: (310) 209-4499  
Fax: (310) 209-4450